

# User Access Guide – McArthur River Mine Pipeline

December 2025

# Contents

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<b>1. Background</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>2. Service provider</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>3. Overview of process</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>4. Preliminary enquiries</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>5. Access requests</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>6. Access offers</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>7. Negotiations</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>8. Access disputes</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>9. Exchange of information during negotiations</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>10. Prescribed transparency information</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>11. Interconnection</b>	<b>11</b>

# 1. Background

## 1.1. About this guide

This User Access Guide is published in accordance with rule 105C of the National Gas Rules (NGR) for the McArthur River Mine Pipeline (MRM Pipeline), owned and operated by Power and Water Corporation (Power and Water, or 'us'). This revised version of the MRM Pipeline User Access Guide replaces the User Access Guide - McArthur River Pipeline/Daly Waters Pipeline dated December 2023.

The information contained in this User Access Guide is for users or prospective users of the MRM Pipeline (referred to as 'you') and sets out the process for applying for access to pipeline services. This User Access Guide is intended to be read together with Part 11 of the NGR and the NGR will prevail to the extent of any inconsistency. Terms that are defined in the NGR have the same meaning when used in this User Access Guide, unless specified otherwise

This guide may be updated or amended by Power and Water from time to time. Any questions about the access process or this User Access Guide should be directed to Power and Water's nominated contact person (see section 2).

## 1.2. Scope

This User Access Guide applies to requests for access to pipeline services provided by means of the MRM Pipeline, including any request to extend the service term of a current arrangement or add a new pipeline service to an existing arrangement. It does not apply in relation to:

- arrangements for existing pipeline services provided under an existing access contract; or
- a request to vary the terms and conditions of access applicable to a pipeline service provided under an existing access contract for any part of the current service term for that service.

## 1.3. The MRM Pipeline

The MRM Pipeline (also known as the Daly Waters Pipeline) is a transmission pipeline located in the north region of the Northern Territory. The MRM Pipeline is owned and operated by Power and Water (with operation and maintenance services provided by a subcontractor, OSD Asset Services).

The MRM Pipeline's connection points are:

- Receipt point – Daly Waters Scraper Station on the Amadeus Gas Pipeline (operated by the APA Group); and
- Delivery Point – McArthur River Mine.

Description:

The MRM Pipeline is a non-scheme transmission pipeline that is 330 km in length and 168 mm in diameter, with a maximum capacity of 15 TJ per day. It is located in the north region of the Northern Territory and currently serves the McArthur River Mine. The pipeline is owned and operated by Power and Water (with operation and maintenance services provided by a contractor). The AER has granted: a Category 2 exemption under Part 10 of the NGR on 9 April 2024 for five years; and a ring-fencing exemption under Part 5, on 29 November 2024.

The map below shows the location of the MRM Pipeline:



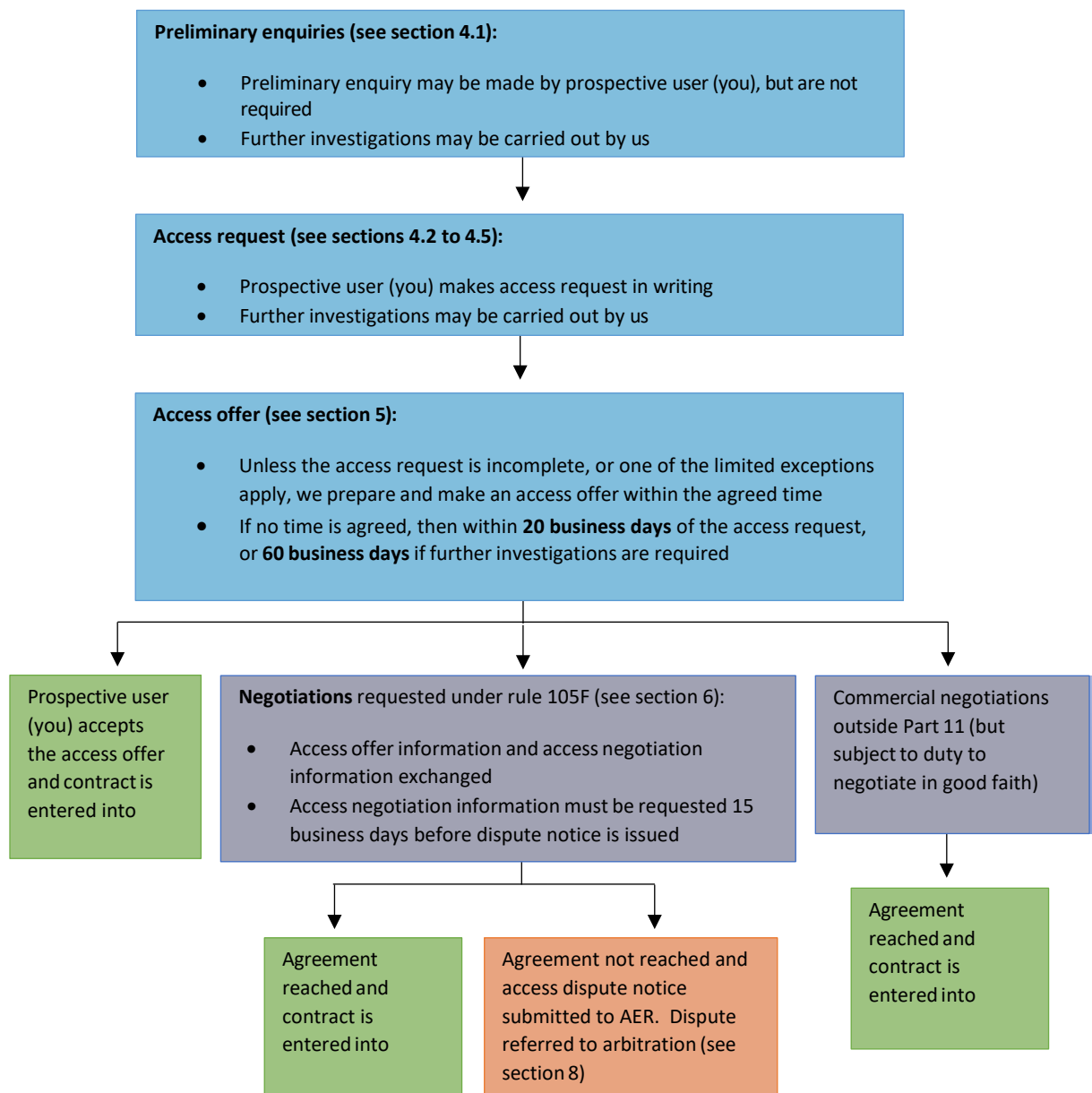
## 2. Service provider

The service provider for the MRM Pipeline is Power and Water Corporation. Please direct all preliminary enquiries, access requests and general queries to Power and Water's nominated contact ('Nominated Contact'):

Executive General Manager - Gas Services  
Level 7, Mitchell Centre  
55 – 59 Mitchell Street  
Darwin NT 0801  
Contact number: 08 8985 7124  
Email: [Antoni.Murphy@powerwater.com.au](mailto:Antoni.Murphy@powerwater.com.au)  
Subject: MRM Pipeline access enquiry

## 3. Overview of process

The following flowchart sets out an overview of the process for accessing pipeline services on the MRM Pipeline.



## 4. Preliminary enquiries

Before making an access request, you may make a preliminary enquiry about access to a pipeline service provided by means of the MRM Pipeline. Preliminary enquiries are encouraged but are not required prior to you making an access request under section 5.

Preliminary enquiries may be directed to our Nominated Contact. There are no formal requirements for a preliminary enquiry, however, you should provide sufficient information for Power and Water to respond to the enquiry. The information referred to in paragraphs 5.1 (c) and (d) can be used as a general guide.

Power and Water will respond to the preliminary enquiry within 10 business days of receiving the preliminary enquiry stating:

- whether we can provide access to the pipeline services referred to in the enquiry, or we need to carry out further investigations; and
- when we will provide an offer.

If requested by you, we will carry out further investigations based on the preliminary enquiry and before you make an access request (note: Power and Water may require you to cover the reasonable cost of such an investigation).

If we make an offer in response to a preliminary enquiry, you do not need to submit an access request, and may accept the offer or proceed under the negotiation framework.

## 5. Access requests

You may request Power and Water to provide access to a pipeline service provided by means of the MRM Pipeline (or by part of the MRM Pipeline, or by an extension to, or expansion of the capacity of, the MRM Pipeline).

### 5.1. Requirements

An access request must be made in writing and delivered to our Nominated Contact. It must include the following information:

- (a) Access request – that the request is an access request under rule 105D of the NGR.
- (b) User information – the following information about the entity seeking access and who will be the contracting entity in any resulting access agreement:
  - (i) Company name and ABN/ACN
  - (ii) Organisational chart showing relevant parent company (if applicable)
  - (iii) Contact details for an officer or representative of the entity
  - (v) Reason the entity is seeking access to the pipeline service
- (c) Service information – the following information about the pipeline service that is requested:
  - (i) Description of the pipeline service requested
  - (ii) Start date and end date for the pipeline service
  - (iii) Capacity intended to be utilised
  - (iv) Receipt point and delivery point, and quantities required at each connection point
  - (v) Gas quality specification of gas to be delivered into the MRM Pipeline
  - (vi) If a new interconnection is required, relevant technical details relating to that new interconnection, including location and delivery pressure
- (d) Other information – any other information reasonably required for us to prepare an access offer, or to determine whether we need to undertake further investigations.

You may amend the details of the access sought at any time after making the access request, with Power and Water's consent. We will not withhold consent unreasonably.

## 5.2. Acknowledgment

Power and Water must acknowledge receipt of your access request within 5 business days after receipt. If the access request is incomplete, we will specify the additional information required when we acknowledge receipt.

## 5.3. Further investigations

Power and Water may need to undertake further investigations to determine the terms and conditions for provision of a pipeline service sought by you, in a manner that is:

- technically feasible and consistent with the safe and reliable operation of the pipeline; and
- consistent with the safe and reliable supply of gas to end users, where the pipeline service sought is the interconnection of a pipeline or other facility.

If further investigations are required to respond to your access request, Power and Water will:

- inform you within 10 business days after receipt of the access request (or receipt of additional information requested by Power and Water, if applicable);
- undertake further investigations expeditiously and only to the extent reasonably necessary; and

We are both under an obligation to negotiate in good faith regarding the terms and conditions, costs and timing required to complete the further investigations.

# 6. Access offers

## 6.1. Making an access offer

After receiving an access request, we will prepare and make an access offer within the time agreed with you. If no time is agreed, then we will make the access offer within the following time periods:

- (a) if no further investigations are required - 20 business days after receiving the access request, or receiving any additional information requested; or
- (b) if further investigations are required - 60 business days after receiving the access request, or receiving any additional information requested.

The access offer will:

- (a) set out the terms and conditions on which we offer to make the requested pipeline service(s) available;
- (b) contain the details of any works to be undertaken by Power and Water, or by you, including any applicable technical and performance specifications; and
- (c) be in a form capable of acceptance by you, to constitute a new access contract or form part of an existing access contract.

## 6.2. Circumstances when we may not make an access offer

We are not required to make an access offer in the following circumstances:

- (a) Where the access request has been withdrawn by you.
- (b) Where we conclude that it is not:
  - technically feasible;
  - consistent with the safe and reliable operation of the MRM Pipeline; or
  - consistent with the safe and reliable supply of gas to end users, where the pipeline service sought is the interconnection of a pipeline or other facility,

to provide the pipeline service requested by the user or prospective user, having used all reasonable efforts to accommodate the reasonable requirements of the user or prospective user.

If we do not make an access offer for any of these reasons, we will provide you with a written explanation:

- of why the requested pipeline service cannot be provided; and
  - when the requested pipeline service is likely to become available, if there is some prospect that it will become possible to provide the service in the future.
- (c) Where the provision of the requested pipeline service would require the extension of the MRM Pipeline.

## 7. Negotiations

### 7.1. Requesting negotiations

If you have made an access request for a pipeline service, or have received an offer from us because of a preliminary enquiry, you may provide us with a notice requesting negotiations in relation to any aspect of access to a pipeline service including:

- (a) whether access can be granted; and
- (b) the price and other terms and conditions of an access offer.

If an access request is for more than one pipeline service, you may give notice to Power and Water requiring negotiations for all pipeline services to be included in the same negotiation process.

A notice requesting negotiations relating to the following matters is of no effect:

- (a) a dispute about a pipeline service provided under an existing access contract;
- (b) a request to vary the terms and conditions of access applicable to a pipeline service provided under an existing access contract for any part of the current service term for that pipeline service;
- (c) an access request that would require the extension of a pipeline; and
- (d) a dispute about standard terms and conditions for secondary trading of capacity excluded from the operation of Chapter 5 of the National Gas Law (NGL).

## 7.2. Parties

If a notice is given under section 7.1, the parties to the negotiation will be you and Power and Water, and any other person that we both agree to include as a party to the negotiations. Together, we must use reasonable endeavours to identify any other person who may become a party to an access dispute relating to the pipeline service the subject of the negotiations.

## 7.3. Timetable

The parties to the negotiation must take all reasonable steps to agree to a timetable for the negotiations and, in doing so, a party must seek to accommodate all reasonable requirements of the other party or parties to the negotiations.

## 7.4. Obligation to negotiate in good faith

Under section 148D of the NGL, both you and Power and Water are under an obligation to negotiate in good faith regarding:

- (a) whether access can be granted to you; and
- (b) if so, the terms and conditions on which access will be provided.

## 7.5. Confidentiality

Both parties (Power and Water and you) must only use or reproduce confidential information obtained from the other party for the purpose it was provided, and must not disclose the confidential information except:

- (a) to the Australian Energy Regulator or to an arbitrator if the dispute is subject to arbitration;
- (c) to a mediator, if the dispute is subject to mediation;
- (d) with the consent of the other party;
- (e) to the party's professional or other adviser who agrees to maintain the confidentiality of the information;
- (f) if required by, or necessary for the purposes of the NGR or NGL;
- (g) if the disclosure is in accordance with an order or a subpoena issued by a court of competent jurisdiction; or
- (h) if the disclosure is authorised or required by a law of a participating jurisdiction or required by a competent regulatory body, and the person making the disclosure gives written details of the disclosure (including an explanation of the reasons for the disclosure) to the other party.

For these purposes, confidential information means all information exchanged between parties in the negotiations, other than information in the public domain.

## 7.6. Bringing negotiations to an end

You may bring negotiations to an end at any time, by providing notice to us. You may bring negotiations to an end whether or not you have notified us of an access dispute (see section 8).

## 8. Access disputes

### 8.1. Existence of access dispute

Without limitation, an access dispute is taken to exist for the purposes of these rules if:

- (a) you disagree with any of the responses we provided in response to an access request; or
- (b) a timetable for negotiations is not agreed within a reasonable time; or
- (c) an agreement is not reached in accordance with the agreed timetable for negotiations.

### 8.2. Notice of access disputes

Both you and Power and Water have the right to give written notice to the Australian Energy Regulator ('AER') that an access dispute exists in accordance with Chapter 5 of the NGL and Part 12 of the NGR. The notice must also be given to the other party to the negotiations as soon as practicable after it is given to the AER.

The AER will take reasonable steps to refer an access dispute to arbitration within 15 business days after receiving the access dispute notice and will give notice to all parties when the dispute has been referred. For further information on the arbitration process is contained in Part 12 of the NGR and the AER's non-scheme pipeline arbitration guide: <https://www.aer.gov.au/networks-pipelines/non-scheme-pipelines/arbitration-of-access-disputes>.

## 9. Exchange of information during negotiations

### 9.1. Information exchange – duty of good faith

Each party to the negotiations must request or provide negotiation information in a manner and at a time consistent with the party's duty to negotiate in good faith.

### 9.2. Requests for access offer information

From time to time, you may provide us with a notice requesting access offer information in relation to any aspect of the matters being negotiated.

Access offer information means information related to matters considered in adjudicating access disputes, as specified in NGR Rule 113Z, including:

- (a) information about the method used to determine the price in an access offer and the inputs used in the calculation of the price; and
- (b) information regarding the costs associated with the provision of a pipeline service sought by you.

### 9.3. Response to request for access offer information

If you provide us with a notice requesting access offer information, we must comply with the request within 15 business days, or any longer period agreed with you. We are not required to comply with the request in the following circumstances:

- (a) doing so would breach a confidentiality obligation owed to a third party, despite reasonable efforts to obtain the consent of that third party;
- (b) the information is the subject of legal professional privilege; or
- (c) the request relates to documents that would disclose information subject to legal professional privilege.

The access offer information we provide in response to your request must be:

- relevant to the subject matter of the request; and
- provided in a readily readable form including where requested in electronic file format with all underlying data files and inputs.

## 9.4. Access negotiation information

A party to negotiations may:

- (a) from time to time give notice requesting another party to the negotiations to provide access negotiation information that the other party is seeking to rely on in relation to a specific matter arising in the negotiations; and
- (b) during the negotiations give notice requesting another party to the negotiations provide all access negotiation information of the other party.

In relation to a notice in sub-paragraph (b) above, a party to negotiations:

- must give notice before the party issues an access dispute notice in relation to the subject matter of the negotiations; and
- must not issue an access dispute notice earlier than 15 business days after the notice is given

## 9.5. Response to request for access negotiation information

A party to negotiations under this Part must provide access negotiation information requested by another party to the negotiations under section 9.5 within 15 business days of the request or any longer period agreed by the party making the request. The party receiving the request is not required to comply in the following circumstances:

- (a) doing so would breach a confidentiality obligation owed to party not related to the negotiations, despite reasonable efforts to obtain the consent of that third party;
- (b) the information is the subject of legal professional privilege; or
- (c) the request relates to documents that would disclose information subject to legal professional privilege.

# 10. Prescribed transparency information

The MRM Pipeline's prescribed information disclosure information required under Part 10, Division 2, Subdivision 1 is available on Power and Water's website. Links to the Gas Services Regulation page and specific transparency information is set out below:

Gas Services regulation page: [Gas regulation | Power and Water Corporation](#)

Pipeline access information: [McArthur River Pipeline Access Information](#)

Standing price methodology: [McArthurs River Pipeline - standing price methodology March 2025](#)

MRM Pipeline Standing Terms: [McArthur River Pipeline Standing Terms 2025](#)

## 11. Interconnection

You have a right to connect to the MRM Pipeline where:

- (d) it is technically feasible and consistent with the safe and reliable operation of the pipeline and the safe and reliable supply of covered gas to end users; and
- (e) you agree to fund the costs associated with making the interconnection.

If you are seeking the interconnection of a pipeline or other facility, Power and Water's Pipeline Interconnection Policy should be read with this User Access Guide. The Pipeline Interconnection Policy, incorporating a standard connection agreement, is published on Power and Water's website:

[https://www.powerwater.com.au/data/assets/pdf\\_file/0019/438112/Pipeline-interconnection-policy.pdf](https://www.powerwater.com.au/data/assets/pdf_file/0019/438112/Pipeline-interconnection-policy.pdf).

## Contact

Power and Water Corporation  
Gas Services  
1800 245 092  
[powerwater.com.au](http://powerwater.com.au)

**PowerWater**